

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Marquette and Ludington Biological Stations



January 2013

COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIP

Matt Symbal and Lynn Kanieski, biologists from the Marquette Larval Assessment Unit, met with Dorance Brege, Shawn Nowicki, Kathy Hahka, and Lori Criger to discuss 2013 treatment application points and other outstanding distribution surveys that need to be conducted prior to treatment. Matt and Lynn also met with Brian Stephens and Alan Rowlinson (DFO) to discuss application points for the Marquette jurisdiction streams that the DFO will be treating this year. Dorance Brege provided guidance to Brian and Al on past treatments of selected streams.

Jeff Slade and Aaron Jubar worked with Mike Twohey, Dr. Nick Johnson and Scott Miehls (Hammond Bay Biological Station), and Dr. Mike Seifkes (Great Lakes Fishery Commission Secretariat) to draft and submit the pilot research proposal "Determine the origin of sea lampreys in the upper Cheboygan River" and preproposal "Contribution of sea lampreys to Lake Huron from the Cheboygan River, MI" to the Sea Lamprey Research Board. Both of these research projects are designed to better inform future control options for the Cheboygan River system.

Dorance Brege traveled to Ludington to discuss 2013 treatment plans of Lake Erie streams with Tim Sullivan, Rebecca Neeley, Jenna Tews, and Matt Lipps.

Jamie Criger met with Peter Gray (DFO) to discuss equipment that will be used to apply liquid Bayluscide d during the 2013 treatments.

The first meeting of the Lampricide Control Program Review was held in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario to discuss treatment issue differences and commonalities within and among offices. Participants included: Bob Adair, Mike Fodale, Dorance Brege, Shawn Nowicki, Lori Criger, and Kathy Hahka (MBS), Ellie Koon (Retired-LBS), Jeff Slade, Tim Sullivan, Alex Gonzalez, Jenna Tews, and Matt Lipps (LBS), and Mike Steeves, Brian Stephens, Barry Scotland, and Alan Rowlinson (DFO). The meeting was facilitated by Dale Burkett (USFWS/GLFC).

A conference call took place between Marquette and Ludington Control Unit personnel to discuss logistics for the upcoming Cattaraugus Creek treatment scheduled for late March. Lisa Walter presented a sea lamprey control program update to the Lake Huron Technical Committee at their winter meeting in Sarnia, Ontario. Paul Sullivan (DFO) also attended the meeting.

Jessica Barber attended the Lake Superior Technical Committee (LSTC) meeting held in Ashland, WI. Jessica provided the LSTC with a summary of ongoing sea lamprey control actions in Lake Superior.

Jeff Slade attended the winter meeting of the Lake Michigan Technical Committee and presented a summary of 2012 accomplishments and plans for 2013 for sea lamprey control in Lake Michigan.

Jeff Slade reviewed the manuscript "Standard electrofishing protocols for salmon and trout are effective in detecting larval lamprey in wadeable streams in the Pacific Northwest" that was submitted to the North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

Jessica Barber and Dennis Smith met with Thomas Voigt and Gale Bravener (DFO) to discuss 2013 adult assessment planning.

PERSONNEL

Steve Gambicki, former temporary employee and volunteer, accepted a Fish Biologist position at the Alpena Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office.

Michael St.Ours retired after 31 years of government service. On January 11, friends and coworkers met at Remillard's in Marquette to celebrate his successful career. Fond memories of working with Mike were recalled and a good time was had by all. Congratulations and best wishes into retirement, Mike!



Beaver dam cake at Mike St. Ours retirement party. (Photo by Shawn Nowicki, USFWS)

OUTREACH

Mary Wilson, Nik Rewald and Jake VanEffen (MBS), volunteers Dale Ollila, Bob Kahl and Joe Genovese (retired USFWS), and Alan Rowlinson and Chris Sierzputowski (DFO) staffed the Sea Lamprey Control Program display at the Milwaukee Boat Show January 18-27 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Kevin Butterfield (USFWS), Steve Gambicki (USFWS volunteer), Andrea L. Jaeger Miehls and Lauren Holbrook (GLFC Communications Associates, USGS, Hammond Bay Biological Station), and Don Arcuri (Lake Erie Advisory Committee Member from Ohio) staffed the Sea Lamprey Control Program display at the Cleveland Boatshow (International Exposition Center) January 17-21, 2013. Participants answered numerous questions from the public about the Sea Lamprey Control Program as well as questions pertaining to other invasive species in the Great Lakes. A large number of brochures and CDs pertaining to the Sea Lamprey Control Program were distributed to the public. The public also thanked participants for controlling the sea lamprey, and to keep up the good work to protect the Great Lakes fishery.

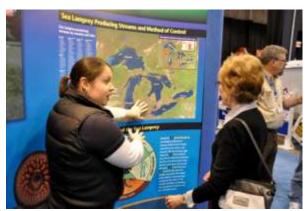


Photo by Andrea Meihls GLFC



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WORKFORCE

Lori Criger, Jamie Criger, Deborah Winkler, Kevin Butterfield, Rebecca Neeley and Jason Krebill attended the MOCC Boating Instructor's Meeting in Green Bay, WI during January 29-30. Training updates, plans and scheduling were discussed for this upcoming field season.

Program staff are busy preparing field equipment, ordering supplies, developing work plans, and drafting reports to the lake committees.